

Homeland Security Advisory System Recommended Actions

1. The White House issued Homeland Security Directive-3, in March 2002, which established five threat conditions for possible terrorist attack: Green = Low; Blue = Guarded; Yellow = Elevated; Orange = High; and Red = Severe. General explanations were given for preparedness activities for each level, but these were intended mainly for government agencies. The American Red Cross developed guidelines to help answer the question “What does a different threat condition mean to me or my family?”
2. The attached two tables provide recommended actions for individuals and families to take based on the various levels of the Homeland Security Advisory System.
3. Electronic versions of these charts and additional emergency preparedness guidelines are available at: <http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared/hsas.html>

Tables:

- A. American Red Cross Homeland Security Advisory System Recommendations For Individual
- B. American Red Cross Homeland Security Advisory System Recommendations For Family_



Homeland Security Advisory System Recommendations

Individual

<u>Risk of Attack</u>	<u>Recommended Actions</u>
SEVERE (Red)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete recommended actions at lower levels</i> • Listen to radio/TV for current information/instructions • Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to proper authorities immediately • Contact business to determine status of work day • Adhere to any travel restrictions announced by local governmental authorities • Be prepared to shelter in place or evacuate if instructed to do so by local governmental authorities • Provide volunteer services only as requested
HIGH (Orange)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete recommended actions at lower levels</i> • Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to proper authorities • Review your personal disaster plan • Exercise caution when traveling • Have shelter in place materials on hand and review procedure in Terrorism: Preparing for the Unexpected brochure • If a need is announced, donate blood at designated blood collection center • Prior to volunteering, contact agency to determine their needs
ELEVATED (Yellow)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete recommended actions at lower levels</i> • Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to proper authorities • Ensure disaster supplies kit is stocked and ready • Check telephone numbers and e-mail addresses in your personal communication plan and update as necessary • Develop alternate routes to/from work/school and practice them • Continue to provide volunteer services
GUARDED (Blue)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete recommended actions at lower level</i> • Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to proper authorities • Review stored disaster supplies and replace items that are outdated • Develop emergency communication plan with family/neighbors/friends • Provide volunteer services and take advantage of additional volunteer training opportunities
LOW (Green)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain copy of Terrorism: Preparing for the Unexpected brochure from your local Red Cross chapter • Develop a personal disaster plan and disaster supplies kit using Red Cross brochures Your Family Disaster Plan and Your Family Disaster Supplies Kit • Examine volunteer opportunities in you community; choose an agency to volunteer with and receive initial training • Take a Red Cross CPR/AED and first aid course

Your [local American Red Cross chapter](#) has materials available to assist you in developing preparedness capabilities.



Homeland Security Advisory System Recommendations

Family

<u>Risk of Attack</u>	<u>Recommended Actions</u>
SEVERE (Red)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete recommended actions at lower levels</i> • Listen to radio/TV for current information/instructions • Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to proper authorities immediately • Contact business/school to determine status of work/school day • Adhere to any travel restrictions announced by local governmental authorities • Be prepared to shelter in place or evacuate if instructed to do so by local governmental authorities • Discuss children's fears concerning possible/actual terrorist attacks
HIGH (Orange)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete recommended actions at lower levels</i> • Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to proper authorities • Review disaster plan with all family members • Ensure communication plan is understood/practiced by all family members • Exercise caution when traveling • Have shelter in place materials on hand and understand procedure • Discuss children's fears concerning possible terrorist attacks • If a need is announced, donate blood at designated blood collection center
ELEVATED (Yellow)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete recommended actions at lower levels</i> • Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to proper authorities • Ensure disaster supplies kit is stocked and ready • Check telephone numbers and e-mail addresses in your family emergency communication plan and update as necessary • If not known to you, contact school to determine their emergency notification and evacuation plans for children • Develop alternate routes to/from school/work and practice them
GUARDED (Blue)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete recommended actions at lower level</i> • Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to proper authorities • Review stored disaster supplies and replace items that are outdated • Develop an emergency communication plan that all family members understand • Establish an alternate meeting place away from home with family/friends
LOW (Green)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain copy of Terrorism: Preparing for the Unexpected brochure from your local Red Cross chapter • Develop a personal disaster plan and disaster supplies kit using Red Cross brochures Your Family Disaster Plan and Your Family Disaster Supplies Kit • Take a Red Cross CPR/AED and first aid course

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